



**COMMISSION ON SENIOR  
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**

**The Commission on Seniors convened a Regular Meeting at Meals on Wheels Central Texas, Board Room 232, 3227 E. 5<sup>th</sup> St, Austin, Texas, 78602.**

**Board Members in Attendance: Chair, *Janee Briesemeister*, Vice Chair, *Peter Varteressian*, *Adam Hauser*, *Amy Temperley*, *Billy Jackson*, *Diana Spain*, *Emily De Maria Nicola*, *Erica Garcia-Pittman*, *Fred Lugo*, *Jacqueline Angel*, *Karen Grampp*, *Martin Kareithi*, *Natalie Cagle*, and *Patricia Bordie*.**

**Board Members not in Attendance: *Sally Van Sickle*.**

**Staff in Attendance: *Tabitha Taylor*, Age Friendly Plan Program Coordinator, Austin Public Health and *Halana Kaleel*, Public Health Educator II, Austin Public Health**

**Presenters: *David Crabb*, Acting Manager, Community Recreation, Austin Parks and Recreation.**

**Chair, *Janee Briesemeister* called the Board Meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. The Commission introduced themselves.**

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

- A. Richard Bondi, LGBT Elder Task Force, General Communication
  - i. Bondi discussed the Task Force becoming a SAGE Affiliate.
- B. Sofia Barbato, Foundation Communities, General Communication
  - i. Observing meeting and wanted to introduce herself. Request to present to the Commissioners in May 2020.
- C. Ivanna Neri, Budget Recommendation, III.B.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE COMMISSION ON SENIORS SPECIAL CALLED MEETING JANUARY 7TH, 2020 AND THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING JANUARY 8TH, 2020.**

- A. The minutes for the Special Called Meeting of January 7<sup>th</sup> and the minutes for the Regular Meeting of January 8<sup>th</sup> were approved on Vice Chair, Varteressian motion, Commissioner Hauser second on a 14-0 vote. Commissioner Van Sickle was absent.

**III. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Joint Meeting with Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities will be Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 5pm.

- B. Equity Office is putting a meeting together for February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 for Boards and Commissions to review the budget process. Chair Briesmeister and Support Staff Kaleel with attend.

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Presentation, 50+ Services Report, David Crabb, Acting Manager, Community Recreation, Austin Parks and Recreation.
  - i. David Crabb and Ben Rustenhaven presented to the Commissioners on current programming for older adults within PARD.
- B. FY21-22 Budget Process and Review
  - i. Neri during Citizen Communication recommended that \$1 million be reallocated in the existing social services contracts to direct and unrestricted cash transfers to families struggling with poverty to advance their social and economic mobility.
  - ii. Chair Briesmeister attended the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities Budget Forum. Concerns that came up were transportation, built environment, inadequate sidewalks, and audible walk signals.
  - iii. Commissioner Spain attended the Commission on Women's Budget Forum. She noted they did not have a large community presence. However, there was focus on trafficking issues such as women aging out of foster care and people vulnerable to trafficking.
  - iv. Commissioner Bordie attended the African American Quality of Life Commission, the did not have quorum, so they handed their Budget Forum to the City of Austin Equity Office which convened a small group that discussed mental health.
  - v. Commissioner Grampp attended the LGBTQ Quality of Life Commission Budget Forum. The discussed topics such as senior centers.
  - vi. Commissioner Angel attended the Hispanic Quality of Life Commission Budget Forum.
  - vii. Commissioners discussed the benefit of having unified request between Commissions due to the current budget limitations.
  - viii. Support Staff Kaleel and Taylor gave an update on the results of the Budget Survey and Forum.
- C. Update on Senior Tax Resolution.
  - i. Forum is being held on February 15<sup>th</sup> on Tax Education for older adults.
- D. Older Americans Month 2020.
  - i. Support Staff Taylor has been working with David Crabb, PARD to plan a better presence for Older Americans Month (OAM).
  - ii. Support Staff Taylor and Commissioner Bordie will go on KZI to promote OAM.
  - iii. Proclamation will be made at City Hall, Commissioners Court, and Williamson County.

- iv. Commissioner Garcia-Pittman suggested incorporating in recognizing community members and have this announced during the May 2020 Commission Meeting.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Commission Work Plan – Standing Item
  - i. No discussion currently.
- B. Updates from Working Groups – Standing Item
  - i. Age Friendly Action Plan Implementation Working Group
    - No discussion currently.
  - ii. Transportation, Housing and Outdoor Spaces Working Group
    - No discussion currently.
  - iii. Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment Working Group
    - No discussion currently.
  - iv. Community Support and Health Services Working Group
    - No discussion currently.
- C. Update on Joint Inclusion Committee – Standing Item (Janee Briesmeister)
  - i. Update provided on the Land Development Code Recommendation.
    - Chair Briesmeister noted she was provided feedback that the recommendation made on parking for the Land Development Code was programmatic and not land development code.
- D. City of Austin Budget – Standing Item (Janee Briesmeister)
  - i. See item III.B.
- E. Update on the Equity Action Team – Standing Item (Emily De Maria Nicola)
  - i. No discussion currently.

## **VI. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

- A. Update on FY20 Budget Community Engagement Forum and Survey.

## **VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. Suggested agenda items for FY20.
  - i. No discussion currently
- B. Presentation Request from Senior Access.
  - i. No discussion currently
- C. Foundation Communities will present to the Commission on Seniors in May 2020.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

- A. Chair, Janee Briesmeister adjourned the meeting at 2:07 p.m. without objection.